



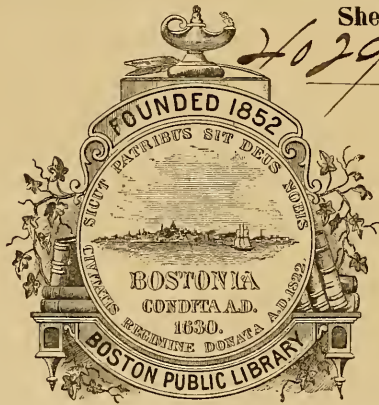
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**Philadelphia  
Commercial Museum**

**Bureau  
of Information**

The object of this Bureau is to make a special study of foreign commerce, compile all facts relative thereto, and make them available in as concise and definite form as possible to American manufacturers and business men.

The Bureau studies and collects all information concerning the state of foreign markets from which products are imported, such as wools, hides, skins, woods, fibres, dye-stuffs, minerals, food products, etc. All new products of the world, samples of which reach the Museum, are made known. Constant communication is maintained with all export markets, and the information thus collected is utilized for the benefit of American commerce.

The Bureau gives advices concerning the commerce of all countries, their customs and commercial relations, their international treaties, their systems of communication and transportation, with special details of freight rates, tariffs, exchanges and currency. It is the purpose of this department to be sufficiently broad in its scope to command the good-will and co-operation of all manufacturers, bankers, commission houses, transportation companies, and all others interested in the development of American commerce.

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## Work in Detail

The manufacturer or dealer who desires to import the raw products of foreign countries will be shown samples in the Museum, and through this Bureau will be advised as to the prevailing prices in the country of origin, the means and cost of transportation, quantity available, and conditions under which the particular products desired can be procured.

The manufacturer who wishes to secure a wider market for his products will be shown samples of what is now being made for the trade of countries where he should compete. In this way he may learn the specific requirements of the markets and the tastes of the people. Full details as to the competition he may have to meet will be furnished him as follows :

- 1st. Character and variety of goods demanded in each market.
- 2d. The country from which imported, together with the names and addresses of foreign manufacturers, where possible.
- 3d. The quantity imported annually.
- 4th. The manufacturer's price at the factory.
- 5th. The retail price in each city where sold.
- 6th. The transportation charges from Europe to each market compared with similar charges from the United States.
- 7th. Import duties.
- 8th. Character of packing.
- 9th. The names and addresses of importers.

This Bureau also collects detailed information concerning all public improvements in progress or contemplated in Spanish America, South Africa, Australia and other export fields which may be of interest to the business men of the United States.

A commercial library is maintained, consisting of statistical publications and consular reports of our own and foreign countries, maps, charts and all prominent periodicals of the world devoted to trade, commerce and finance. By a careful system of indexing, carried on according to the best approved methods, the resources of the library are classified and made available to business men in all lines of trade.

The information of this Bureau is collected through American Consuls, foreign government officials, foreign Chambers of Commerce, and special agents of the Museum.

The services of the Museum are free to all who come for them. Manufacturers who wish to have detailed monthly reports concerning the introduction of their goods into foreign markets, are asked to meet the expense of copying, compiling, postage, etc. This has been estimated at \$50 per year.

These reports are intended to convey practical and specific information that may lead to tangible results. In addition to these reports, subscribers are privileged at all times to make special inquiries on any subjects.













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